

REMARKS

1. Request for Continued Examination:

5 The applicants respectfully request continued examination of the above-indicated application as per 37 CFR 1.114.

2. Rejection of Claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by Yajima et al. (Pub. No.: US 2001/0050735).

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Claim 1 is amended based on the disclosure of the present application to overcome this rejection. No new matter is included.

According to the amended claim 1 and this application, the
15 backlight source 30A or 30B includes a plurality of U-shaped lamps 36 alternately facing two opposite sides of the display panel 32. Each U-shaped lamp 36 comprises a high voltage electrode 36a and a low voltage electrode 36b. The U-shaped lamps 36 are bent in reverse directions to the adjacent U-shaped lamps 36, so that the high voltage
20 electrode 36a are disposed at two sides equally of the backlight source 30A or 30B, such as the left side and the right side of the backlight source 30A or 30B. Accordingly, *the high voltage electrode 36a of one U-shaped lamp 36 adjoins its low voltage electrode 36b or a low voltage electrode 36b of an adjacent U-shaped lamp 36* (Fig.2-4). Therefore,
25 the high voltage electrodes 36a are disposed equally on two sides of the display panel 32 so as to prevent abnormal accumulation of heat on one side of the display panel 32.

According to Fig.19 of Yajima et al.'s disclosure, the backlight
30 unit 300 comprises a plurality of fold-line discharge tubes 35a arranged side by side in the y direction. Four ground-side electrodes 35d (*like as low voltage 36b of this application*) are disposed at approximately the

center and both ends of the fold-line discharge tubes 35a, and two high-voltage side electrodes 35c are disposed between the ground-side electrodes of fold-line discharge tubes 35a in the x direction, so that the high-voltage side electrode 35c of one fold-line discharge tube 35a only 5 adjoins the ground-side electrodes 35d of the same fold-line discharge tubes 35a or adjoins the high-voltage side electrode 35c of other fold-line discharge tubes 35a. Therefore, none of the high-voltage side electrodes 35c of a fold-line discharge tube 35a adjoins any ground-side electrodes 35d of other fold-line discharge tubes 35a. Accordingly, the 10 related place (y direction, or two sides of the display panel) of ground-side and high-voltage electrodes 35d and 35c of Yajima et al.'s is different from the low-voltage and high-voltage electrodes 36a and 36b of this application shown in Fig.2-4.

15 From the above discussion, the Applicants believe that the amended claim 1 of the present application can clearly describe the arrangement of the low-voltage and high-voltage electrodes 36a and 36b. The amended claim 1 of this application is absolutely different from the Yajima et al.'s disclosure and should be allowable. Reconsideration of 20 claim 1 is hereby requested.

25 Claims 2-11 are dependent upon the amended claim 1, and claims 2-11 should be allowed if the amended claim 1 is allowed. Reconsideration of claims 2-11 is therefore requested.

3. Introduction to new claim 12:

30 No new matter has been introduced by the new claim 12, and the new claim 12 is fully supported by the specification and figures as filed.

Claim 12 is added to emphasize the related place of the high voltage electrodes and the low voltage electrodes. Referring to Fig.2-4 of this

application, a high voltage electrode 36a and a low voltage electrode 36b are respectively deposited at one end and at another end of the each U-shaped lamp 36, and the U-shaped lamps 36 are parallel with each other and arranged along a first direction. And all of the high voltage electrodes 36a and the low voltage electrodes 36b are disposed side by side at two lines (at two sides of the display panel 30A or 30B) along the first direction, wherein a high voltage electrode 36a of a U-shaped lamp 36 is adjacent to the low voltage electrode 36b of the same U-shaped lamp 36 or of an adjacent U-shaped lamp 36.

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Referring to Fig.19 of Yajima et al.'s disclosure, the lamps 35 are arranged along y direction. The ground-side electrodes 35d are always deposited on two sides of the display panel, and the high voltage electrode 35c are disposed between the ground-side voltage electrodes. Therefore, the high-voltage electrodes 35c and the ground-side electrodes 35d are not positioned side by side along y direction (like as first direction of this application) at all. Accordingly, the applicants believe that claim 12 is absolutely different from Yajima et al.'s disclosure. Consideration of claim 12 is hereby requested.

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4. Introduction to the new claims 13-22:

No new matter has been introduced by the new claims 13-22, and the new claims 13-22 are fully supported by the specification and figures as filed.

Claim 18 describes the arrangement of the U-shaped lamps 36 shown in Fig.4 of this application. As shown in Fig.4, each U-shaped lamps 36 is bent and has an opening defined by its two ends, and one end 30 of the U-shaped lamp 36 is positioned in an opening of its adjacent U-shaped lamp 36. Referring to the application of Yajima et al., they do not teach disposing the end of a bent lamp in the opening of another bent

lamp, and therefore claim 18 should be allowable.

Regarding claim 19, it describes the high voltage electrodes and low voltage electrodes are arranged in a line along the first direction, 5 wherein the U-shaped lamps are parallel with each other along the same first direction. Furthermore, one of the high voltage electrodes is adjacent to two low voltage electrodes positioned at the line, which means the high voltage electrodes and the low voltage electrodes are positioned alternately. Referring to Fig.19 of the application of Yajima 10 et al., the lamps 35 are arranged along y direction. Although the high-voltage side electrodes 35c and the ground-side electrodes 35d are positioned alternately along x direction, the high-voltage side electrodes 35c and the ground-side electrodes 35d do not positioned alternately 15 along y direction. In contrast, the high-voltage side electrodes 35c and the ground-side electrodes 35d are arranged in at least two lines separately along y direction. Accordingly, Yajima et al. do not teach all the limitations of claim 19 and claim 19 should be allowable.

As the new claims 13-22 are dependent upon the new claim 12, the 20 new claims 13-22 should be allowable if the new claim 12 is allowable. Consideration of the new claims 13-22 is therefore politely requested.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

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Sincerely yours,

Winston Hsu

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